REMARKS

The instant RCE is being submitted so that the Examiner has an opportunity to consider a verified English translation of JP 61-204040 which was originally cited in the Second Information Disclosure Statement filed in this application on February 9, 2004, and acknowledged in the Notice of Allowance dated March 23, 2004. Certain portions of the document have been highlighted for the Examiner's convenience and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this translated document in connection with the claims currently of record. In this regard, claim 1 has been further amended to define the amount of water-insoluble vanadyl sulfate with greater precision consistent with the disclosure provided in the specification such as in the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 16.

The present Amendment also adds a new dependent claim 41 which defines a certain type of titanium oxide consistent with the disclosure provided in the specification such as in the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17 and amends claim 8 to use the more conventional term "comprising" rather than "characterized by" without altering the scope of such claim.

Favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner wish to discuss any aspect of the present application, she is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted, BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: May 12, 2004

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